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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Egypt

SUBJECT Crisis in the Moslem Brotherhood

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1. A group of young activists in the Moslem Brotherhood has rebelled against the supreme leadership and split the heretofore unified structure of the organization.
2. The following Moslem Brothers play a leading part in the young activist group: Mohammed Soliman, Mohammed el Ghazali, Abdel Aziz Galal, Sala Achmaoui. Members of this circle are regarded as the intellectual sponsors of a series of political murders between 1948 and 1951.
3. On the evening of 27 Nov 53 a group of 150 young Mohammedans burst into the Brotherhood headquarters, and there barricaded themselves so that a counterstroke was not possible without bloodshed. The Egyptian police were evidently informed of the proposed coup beforehand. In any event, the nearby police bureaus refused to interfere, and police headquarters made no response to the alarm raised by the supreme leader, Sheik Hassan el Hodeibi. A "constituent committee" of the rebels deposed Hodeibi and named Mohammed Sadek as supreme leader and Sala Achmaoui as head of a newly created executive bureau.
4. Hodeibi and his followers tried in vain to break into the headquarters. Thereupon, Hodeibi called together his followers and the older members of the Moslem Brotherhood advisory committee and issued the following statement:

"A number of younger members of the Moslem Brotherhood have staged a revolt which must be severely condemned. The "deposition" pronounced by these younger members is self evidently illegal. I pay no attention to it and remain at the head of the Executive Committee. I ask all Brothers to give no recognition to this attempt to divide the unity of the Moslem Brotherhood and split us apart."

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5. The Revolutionary Committee, at the suggestion of Gamal Abd el Nasser, has taken steps towards bringing about, or if necessary enforcing, a reconciliation between the two groups.
6. Background of the Rebellion. This occurrence was the outcome of the following developments:
 - a. A rapprochement at Nasser's suggestion between the Moslem Brotherhood and the Revolutionary Committee. A concrete agreement for a closer governmental control of the Brotherhood was made on 23 Nov 53 at a meeting of leading members of the Revolutionary Committee and the executive committee of the Brotherhood.
 - b. The activist group believed that the yielding attitude thus shown by Hodeibi threatened the supranational, Islamic fundament of the Moslem Brotherhood.

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